

Preface

by Fred F. Kadlubar* and Frederick A. Beland*

N-Substituted aryl compounds—which include arylamines, arylamides and nitroaromatics—were among the first chemicals to be characterized as human and animal carcinogens. Over the last 30-40 years, studies of these compounds have led to major advances in cancer research and have been instrumental in the development of experimental oncology as a scientific discipline. On November 7-9, 1979, the First International Conference on Carcinogenic and Mutagenic *N*-Substituted Aryl Compounds was held in Rockville, Maryland, USA. This conference, which brought together scientists from varied backgrounds in basic research and in public health, stimulated considerable research interest and provided a conceptual framework for future investigation. From the success of this conference, it became apparent that additional emphasis in this research area would result in important new discoveries. For this reason, the Second International Conference on Carcinogenic and Mutagenic *N*-Substituted Aryl Compounds was organized and sponsored by the National Center for Toxicological Research and the National Cancer Institute. It was convened on March 30-April 1, 1982, in Hot

Springs, Arkansas, USA, and included conferees from the United States, Canada, Japan, the United Kingdom, France, The Netherlands, Belgium, Germany and Norway. The presentations consisted of lectures and posters which focused on the most recent findings in five general areas: epidemiology and human exposure, metabolic activation and detoxification, carcinogen binding to macromolecules, mutagenesis, and organ specificity and pathogenesis. We hope this volume, which contains the proceedings of this conference, will serve to promote further research in these areas.

A number of individuals helped in the planning and execution of this conference. In particular we would like to acknowledge the contributions of Linda Amspaugh, Robert Loe, Richard Barringer, Nick Aston, Todd Pierce, David Beranek, Paul Howard and our two coorganizers Snorri Thorgeirsson and Charles Irving. We also thank the Midwest Research Institute and Intox Laboratories for hosting receptions for the participants. Finally, we are indebted to the National Cancer Institute and the National Center for Toxicological Research for financial sponsorship.

*National Center for Toxicological Research, Jefferson, AR 72079.